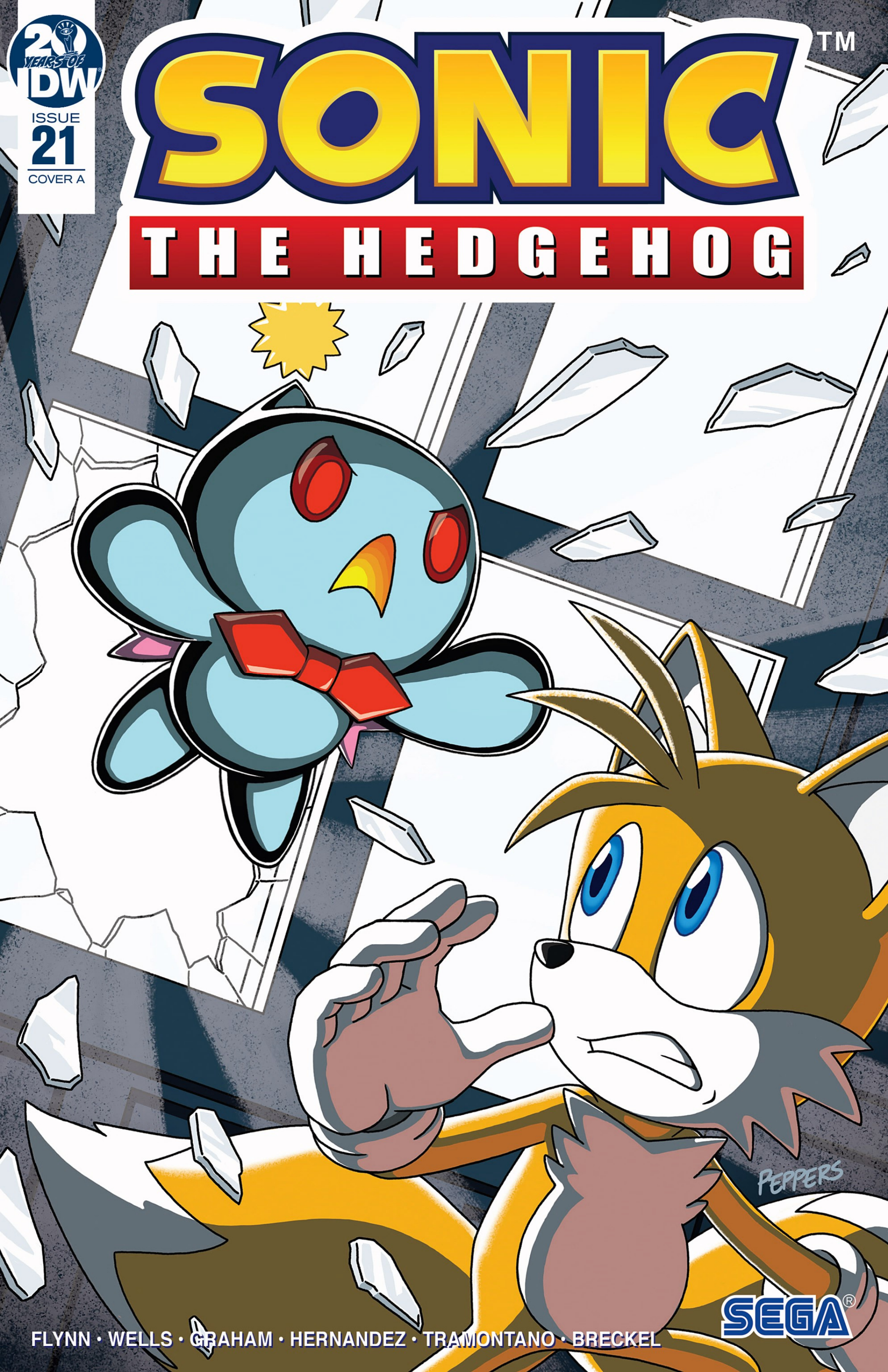
20 YEARS OF IDW

ISSUE 21

COVER A

SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG



FLYNN • WELLS • GRAHAM • HERNANDEZ • TRAMONTANO • BRECKEL

SEGA®

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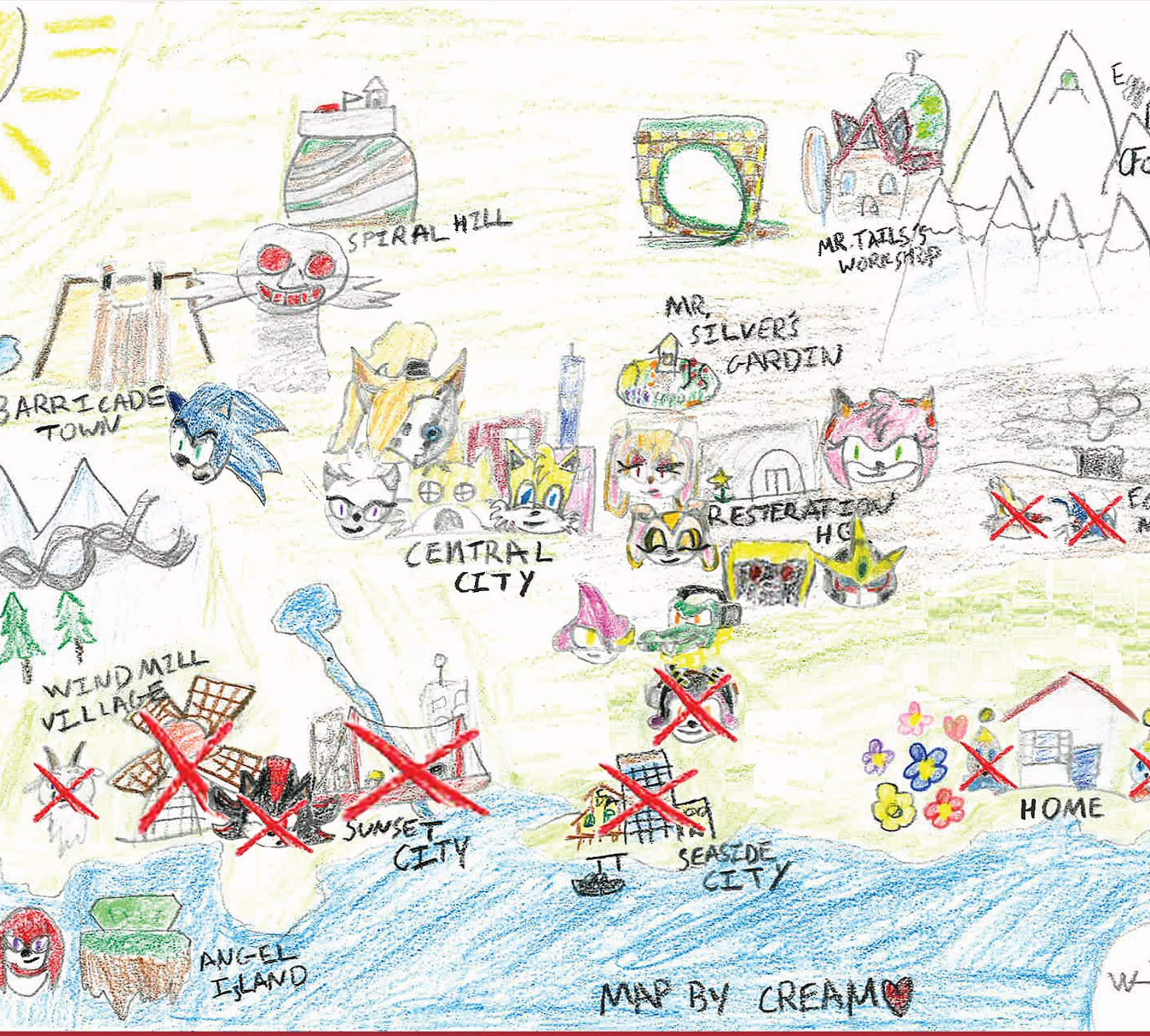


STORY SO FAR...

. Eggman has unleashed a Metal Virus capable of infecting living ganic matter and turning it into zombie-like robots (Zombots) that an infect others and that respond only to his command. As the etal Virus spreads, cities and heroes–including Sonic himself–have een infected.

ow, Tails finds himself in Central City, researching a cure…

Amy organizes rescue missions from Restoration HQ…

Sonic races to create speed data for Tails's research…

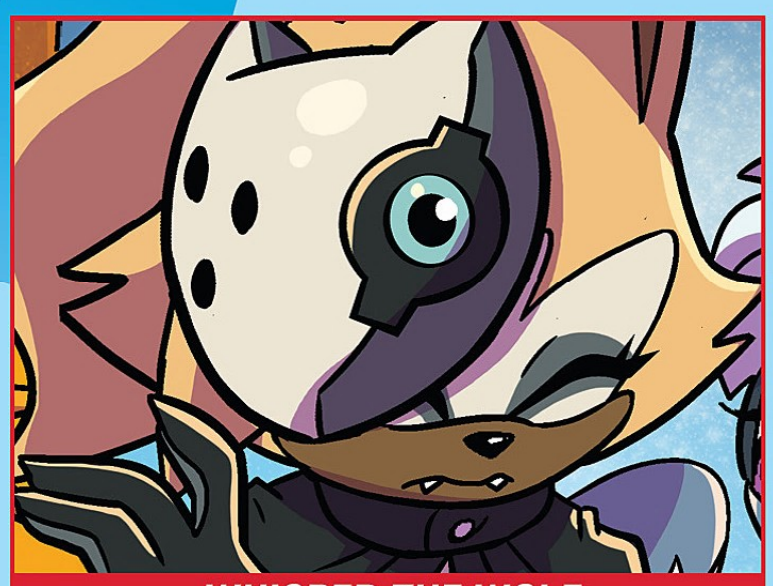
and it all comes down to the last minute!

ROLL CALL

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
The Blue Blur.
Fastest thing alive.

MILES "TAILS" PROWER
Tech-savvy Sidekick.
High-flying genius.

TANGLE THE LEMUR
Excitable Hero.
Elastic-tailed brawler.



WHISPER THE WOLF
Silent Sniper.
Variable-wispon master.

AMY ROSE
Hammer-Swinging Heroine.
Restoration organizer.

TAILS'S WORKSHOP, CENTRAL CITY.

ONE HOUR AGO.

WHY HERE? WHY *NOW*?!

LET'S CURE THAT RUSH HOUR GRIDLOCK WITH DR. EGGMAN'S PATENTED METAL VIRUS!

HA HA HA HA!

CHANGE OF PLANS! WE'LL GET DOWNTOWN AND—

NO. STAY.

SHE'S RIGHT. YOU'VE GOT THE IMPORTANT JOB OF RESEARCHING A CURE. *WE'LL* HANDLE THE EVACUATION.

WE'VE BECOME A PRETTY GOOD TEAM, AFTER ALL!*

*TANGLE & WHISPER MINI-SERIES.

NOW.

DARN IT, SILVER. WHY'D YOU HAVE TO JINX IT?

BREEP-
BREEP

YO, TAILS! YOU THERE?

I'M HERE! WHERE ARE YOU?

I'M NOT FAR OUTSIDE OF BARRICADE TOWN. EVERYTHING GOING WELL ON YOUR END?

YES AND *VERY MUCH* NO.

THE DATA FROM THAT BIO-SCANNER I GAVE YOU IS COMING IN PERFECTLY.

ON THE OTHER HAND, EGGMAN HIT CENTRAL CITY WITH THE METAL VIRUS JUST AS WE GOT INTO TOWN.

YIKES. HANG TIGHT, I'LL MAKE A U-TURN AND BE THERE SOON.

NO-NO-NO! YOU KEEP RUNNING!

WE *NEED* YOUR SPEED DATA. IT MAY BE THE ONLY KEY TO FINDING A CURE! PLUS, IT'LL BE A BACKUP IN CASE SOMETHING HAPPENS ON MY END.

GOTCHA. STILL, STAY SAFE.

THANKS. I SHOULD BE FINE.

CRASH

I'VE GOT TO LET YOU GO, SONIC.

SURE THING. YOU GO BE BRILLIANT.

I'LL TRY!

TAILS TO RESTORATION HQ. DO YOU COPY? I'M CHECKING IN.

I'M HERE, TAILS. HOW'S THE CURE COMING?

IT'S SLOW GOING. I HAVE TO KEEP LOOKING OVER MY SHOULDER FOR ZOMBOTS.

WHAT ABOUT THE EVACUATION? DO I NEED TO SEND THE SHUTTLES NOW?

I'M NOT SURE. I'VE BEEN ZEROED IN ON MY RESEARCH. I'LL CHECK IN WITH TANGLE AND WHISPER. ONE OF US WILL LET YOU KNOW.

I'LL TELL THE PILOTS TO GO AHEAD AND PREP. BE CAREFUL—AND GOOD LUCK.

THANKS! TAILS OUT.

TAILS TO TANGLE AND WHISPER! HOW GOES THE EVACUATION?

OH, YOU KNOW. RUNNING. SCREAMING. PANIC. SKIN-OF-OUR-TEETH RESCUES.

IT WOULD BE *SO COOL* IF IT WASN'T SO—Y'KNOW—HORRIBLE AND AWFUL.

TWANG

WE'VE GOT— *YIKES!*

=WHEW= WE'VE GOT A FEW FOLKS, AND WE'RE LEADING THEM TO A DOCK. BUT IT'S *NASTY* DOWN HERE, KIDDO. WE NEED YOU TO WORK ON THAT CURE *FAST*.

COPY THAT. I'LL LET AMY KNOW WHERE TO SEND THE SHUTTLE.

OKAY—SO I'VE GOT MOST OF THE STRUCTURE FIGURED OUT. IT LOOKS AND ACTS LIKE A REAL "LIVE" VIRUS.

I *KNOW* SONIC'S SPEED DETERIORATES THE VIRUS'S STRUCTURE, BUT *HOW?* AND HOW DO I *APPLY* THAT TO OTHERS?

WE CAN'T RISK THE VACCINE BEING TOO WEAK OR ONLY PARTIALLY EFFECTIVE...

...IF I GOT A SAMPLE OF THE VIRUS ITSELF, THAT WOULD HELP CONSIDERABLY...

STEADY... STEADY...

HAHAHA! YES! MIRACLE CURE, HERE I COME!

MEANWHILE...

ZETI CASTLE, LAVA MOUNTAIN ZONE. LOST HEX.

A HIDDEN WORLD ONCE USED AS AN EGGMAN BASE.

...AND THE EGGNET IS IN CHAOS. WHATEVER EGGMAN'S DONE ON THE WORLD BELOW, IT'S *NOT* PRETTY.

WHICH SUITS YOU JUST FINE, I'M SURE.

IT DOESN'T SUIT *ME*, HOWEVER.

WHAT IS THIS? WHO ARE *YOU*?

I AM DR. STARLINE, LEAD ASSISTANT TO DR. EGGMAN.

AND THIS IS A CALL TO ACTION. YOUR SERVICES ARE NEEDED AGAIN.

MY... "SERVICES."

Y-YOU AND THE DEADLY SIX POSSESS UNIQUE SKILLS THAT THE DOCTOR NEEDS TO... *CONTAIN* A CERTAIN ISSUE.

AND HE'S SENT YOU TO RECRUIT US?

I-I'M HERE IN AN... UNOFFICIAL CAPACITY. I BELIEVE IT BETTER TO ASK FORGIVENESS THAN PERMISSION AT THIS JUNCTURE.

AHH. WHAT DO WE GET OUT OF THIS?

AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE *AMENDS* WITH EGGMAN, COMMAND *INCREDIBLE* POWER, AND *DESTROY* SONIC THE HEDGEHOG.

HMM... HOW CAN I REFUSE SUCH AN OFFER?

BOY, DID *HE* MAKE A MISTAKE.

AND WE SHALL CAPITALIZE ON IT. GATHER THE OTHERS.

ALLOW ME SOME TIME TO RALLY MY FORCES, AND WE ARE YOURS.

EXCELLENT! I HAVE MY OWN BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO, BUT I WILL REACH OUT TO YOU SOON.

WEE-HEE-HEE! THAT'S IT! LOOK AT ME! I'M THE MOST INTERESTING PERSON OUT HERE!

WHOA!

OKAY! FAIR ENOUGH! UMM... TIME-OUT?

SKYOW

THAT WAS AWESOME!

THANKS.

MOVE.

OKAY! NOW WHAT?

HELP?

GOOD IDEA!

AMY! IT'S TANGLE! WHAT'S THE E.T.A. ON SOME BACK-UP?

AMY? CREAM? VECTOR? *ANYBODY?*

BOOM

FWEEE

THAT'S... OMINOUS. *UM...* SILVER? DO YOU COPY? CAN YOU LEND US A HAND?

ICE PARADISE IS *ON FIRE!* I'VE GOT MY HANDS FULL!

KINDA LATE TO ASK, BUT IS IT OKAY TO BE SHOOTING YOUR LITTLE WISP BUDDIES AT THE ZOMBOTS?

THEY'RE PURE ENERGY WHEN FIRED.

OH, COOL! LAST THING WE NEED IS ZOMBOT WISPS— EEK!

WHOOSH

NICE EXIT!

...EXCEPT NOW WE'RE A LONG WAY FROM THE RENDEZVOUS.

CALL TAILS?

TAILS? CAN YOU HEAR ME?

YEAH— ARE YOU OKAY?

WE'RE GOOD, BUT WE'VE GOT A WHOLE BUNCH OF ZOMBOTS BETWEEN US AND THE DOCK, AND NO ONE TO HELP US OUT. HOW'S THAT CURE COMING?

MY COMPUTER IS ALMOST DONE PROCESSING SONIC'S SPEED DATA!

BY APPLYING HIS BIOMETRICS TO THE FRESH SAMPLE OF VIRUS I GRABBED OUTSIDE, I CAN APPLY THE DATA IN REAL TIME TO TEST MODELS FOR IMMUNIZATION AND EVEN ***REVERSAL*** OF THE CONTAGION!

CURE, YES? CURE, NO?

Y-YES. I THINK... I THINK *I'VE GOT IT!*

LET ME UPLOAD IT ALL TO RESTORATION HQ'S SERVER AND I'LL COME BACK YOU UP!

THE NIGHTMARE WILL FINALLY BE OVER!

WOO-HOO! WAY TO GO—

BYOOOOOOW

NONONO!

WHAT HAPPENED?!

ZZZT

DON'T PANIC! JUST GRAB THE SERVER BLADES! I CAN PLUG THEM IN AT HEADQUARTERS AND—

SMASH

CRASH

ZWEE

SLAM SLAM SLAM

BOOM

I HAD IT. I WAS SO CLOSE.

AND I CAN'T BLAME YOU...

BOOM

WHRRRR-CLICK

SCREEEEECH

TAILS! WE'RE HEADING DOWN TO THE DOCK! WHERE ARE YOU?!

SCREEECH

P-3a

THAT WAS AMAZING!

I'LL COVER YOU. GO PROTECT THE SURVIVORS.

GOTCHA! BUT I WANNA DRIVE THAT LATER!

YEAH! WOO! PERFECT TIMING!

WHY... WHY IS THERE ONLY ONE?

ANY UNWELCOME GUESTS TRYING TO TAG ALONG?

CLEAR.

C'MON, PEOPLE! OUR RIDE IS HERE! *HUSTLE! HUSTLE! HUSTLE!*

BOOM

TAILS! WE'RE AIRBORNE! C'MON!

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK. YOU DESERVED BETTER.

FOOM!

WAIT... WHERE ARE THE OTHER SHUTTLES? WE DIDN'T HAVE MANY, BUT...

W-WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

WE'RE ON THE ONLY ONE THAT MADE IT OUT.

RESTORATION HQ HAS FALLEN, AND ALMOST EVERYONE WITH IT.

NEXT TIME:
THE SAME DAY, A DIFFERENT ADVENTURE!

SONIC LETTERS SQUAD

Hello Squad! Uh-oh! That doesn't seem good! Tails didn't get the cure figured out and seems like things didn't go well at the Restoration base either. Guess we'll find out more about that in the next issue! But for now, this was "The Last Minute, Part 1" by Ian Flynn, Lamar Wells, Reggie Graham, Jennifer Hernandez, Priscilla Tramontano, Heather Breckel, and Shawn Lee! Now, how about for the Letters Squad, we put all the letters in this issue, all the responses in the next one, and all the art in issue #23? Three corresponding issues where you need the other ones to get the full story! Okay, maybe that works for the actual comic, but we couldn't break up your awesome submissions!

Hi, my name is Donna, and my 14-year-old daughter Ely loves all the Sonic characters! She now cosplays as Sonic characters and makes her own cosplays. The first cosplay she made this year is Silver the Hedgehog. She also made Nimue, Lady of the Lake, from Sonic and the Black Knight. She won first place in the Junior Craftsmanship Competition at Cosplay America in North Carolina.

Art by Ely Archambault

Hi Donna and Ely,

Congratulations on winning first place, Ely! Taking a look at your costumes, it's well deserved! You've done a phenomenal job bringing Sonic characters to life! Thank you for sharing your amazing cosplay with us and the whole Squad is excited to see what you do in the future!

Hi my name is Lisa Pagan. I'm 13 years old. Can you please show my drawing of one of my favorite Sonic characters, Tails, because I want some of my art creations to be famous some day. And I have a comment and a question:

1. I am a #1 Sonic fan!!

2. Will Sonic ever turn into a Zombot??

Sincerely,
Lisa Pagan

Hi Lisa,

Thanks for sharing your super cool drawing of Tails! Y'know, getting your art printed in

Art by Ely Archambault

Art by Lisa Pagan

Art by Damien N.

one of the best comics around is a great start to becoming a famous artist! Think of all the people reading this and seeing your art! It's fantastic! As per your question, well, we checked in on Amy a little bit at the end of this issue, but we haven't seen Sonic in a while... let's hope he's okay, but only time (and another couple of issues) will tell if he's gone full zombot or not!

Hiya, folks down at IDW!

I'm 13 years old, and a more recent Sonic fan. Eek! I reeeeaaaaaallly love your comics, and basically re-read them everyday. Your comics have helped me improve my drawing skills, so, thank you for that. My little sister is a super big fan too. I'd have to say Silver is my favorite, but Shadow's my favorite to draw. I'd have to say that the new characters, like Whisper and Tangle, are pretty awesome, too. I decided to draw you guys a picture of Amy Rose, who's my sister's favorite.

Keep up the good work,
"Salty"

Hi Salty,

We're very glad to hear you and your sister are enjoying the comics so much and that they're helping improve your drawing skills. An old piece of comics wisdom is that the way to improve your art is to study good art and to improve your writing is to read! Clearly, you're doing a ton of both and it's paying off with your great Amy. One last thought, when you draw Silver, do you trace your hand like you're drawing a turkey for hi spines? Is that why he's so fun to draw? We mean… we've never done that in the IDW offices…

Thanks for joining us this time, Squad! Don' forget to send your art and letters to letters@idwpublishing.com, and make sure to mark them: "OKAY TO PRINT!" And join the IDW Sonic Comics Squad on Facebook Next issue, Part 2 of "The Last Minute" follows Amy and the Restoration forces! And don't forget to pick up Sonic: Tangle & Whisper #3, also on sale this month!

Art by Salty

20 YEARS OF IDW

ISSUE 1

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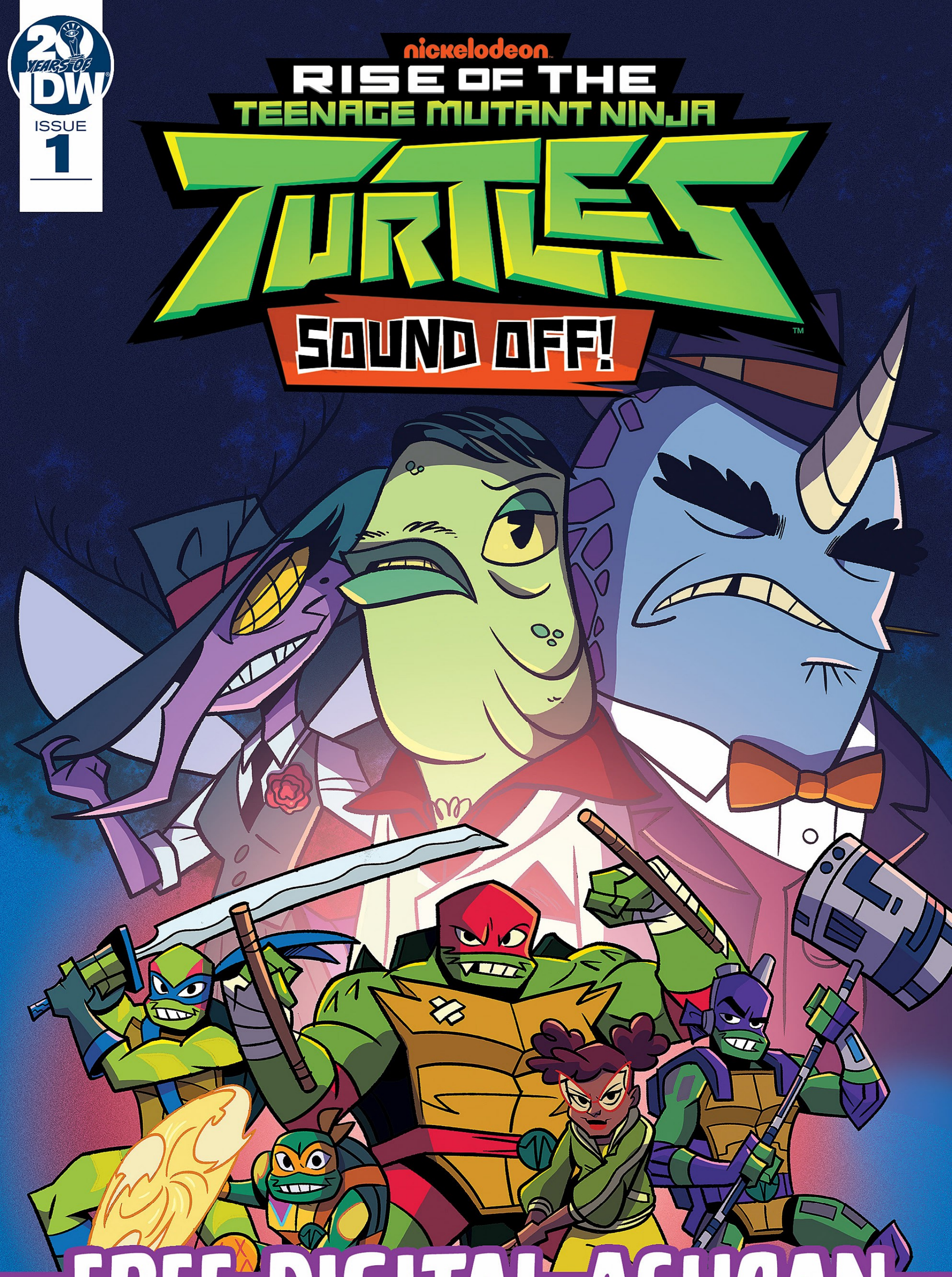
RISE OF THE TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES™

SOUND OFF!



FREE DIGITAL ASHCAN

TAKE A PEEK AT ANOTHER AWESOME SERIES YOU MAY LIKE...

MANNING • THOMAS • BRECKEL

nickelodeon

RISE OF THE TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES™

SOUND OFF!

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NEW YORK CITY.

LACTOSE TOLERANT INC.

SQUEE SKEE SQUEE

—GEE, I SURE AM BORED, TEDDY.

...SSNNNNOOOOGG...

THAT GOES DOUBLE FOR ME, GOOD PAL.

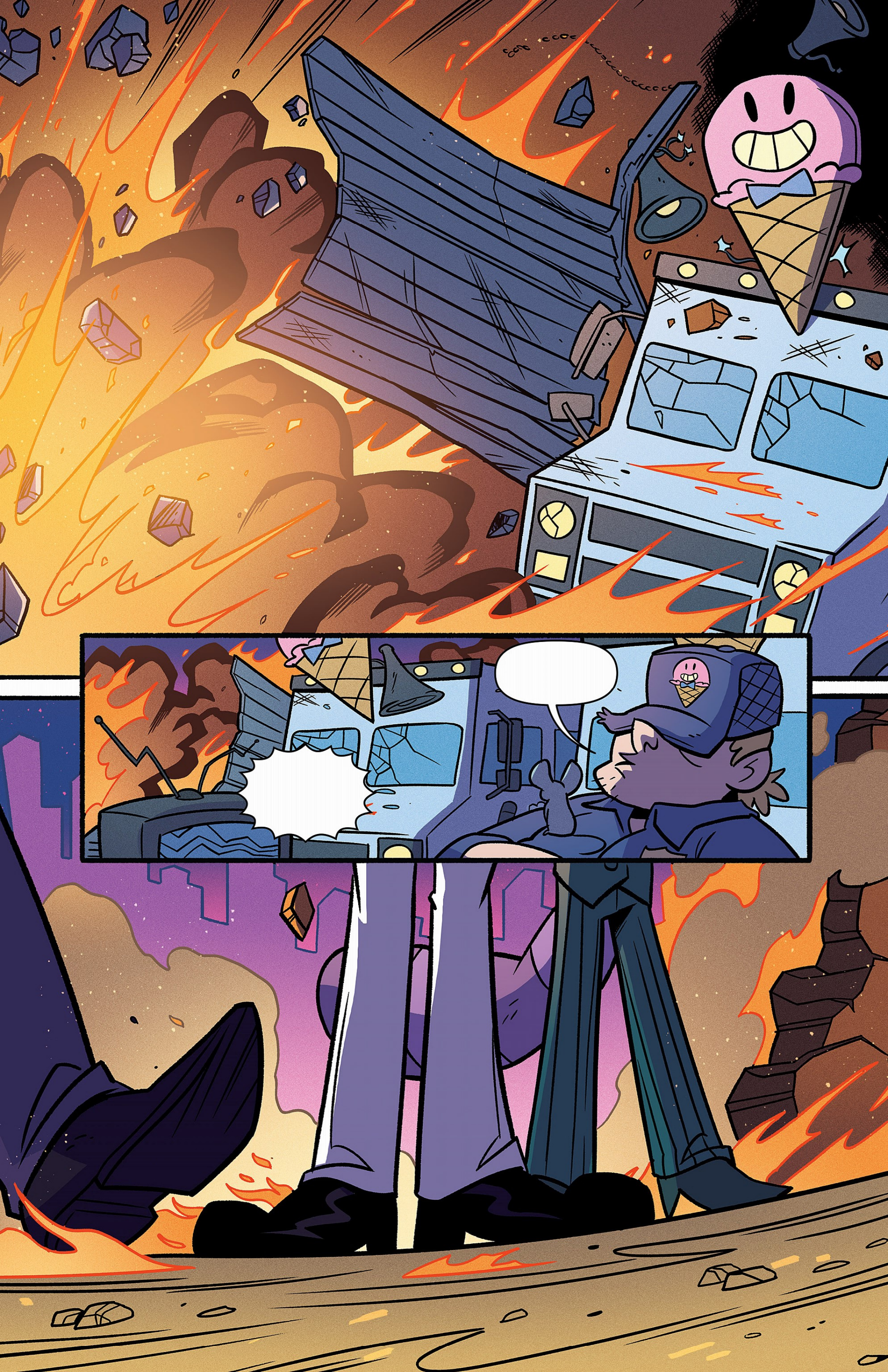
SQUEE SKEE SQUEE

...SSSSNNNNNNO—*

THEN—*

SIPPY SUN

SQUEE*



SOUND OFF!

PART ONE

THERE WE GO. SORRY. I STILL HAD THE SOUND TURNED OFF.

WHAT I SAID WAS, "LET'S GET THESE BANANAS AND SPLIT."

I LIKE YOU BETTER ON MUTE.

HEY, UH, GNED? THERE'S A GUARD...

...SNOOGG... WHATZZZIT...?

LIQUID SUN! GET YOU SOME!

SEE, NOW WHY DOES HE HAVE HIS TV CRANKED UP SO LOUD? IT'S NOT NECESSARY.

I MEAN... AHEM...

HERE'S THE SKINNY, GANG. GNARLY, GNATALIE, YOU EACH GRAB A TRUCK.

I'LL LAY DOWN SOME COVER, SEE?

SHHHHH

IT'S TOO QUIET.

I DON'T LIKE IT.

WHERE IS HE?! I CAN'T TAKE THE TENSION!

JUST KEEP YOUR COOL, MIKEY. WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER. AS LONG AS WE WORK AS A TEAM, WE'LL—

SOMETHING TOUCHED MY LEG!

DON'T TAKE ME! TAKE MIKEY OR LEO! THEY CONTRIBUTE NOTHING TO THE CULTURE!

WAY TO LEAD BY EXAMPLE, DONNIE.

NOW IF RAPH, OUR TRUE LEADER, WAS HERE RIGHT NOW, HE'D UNDOUBTEDLY SAY—

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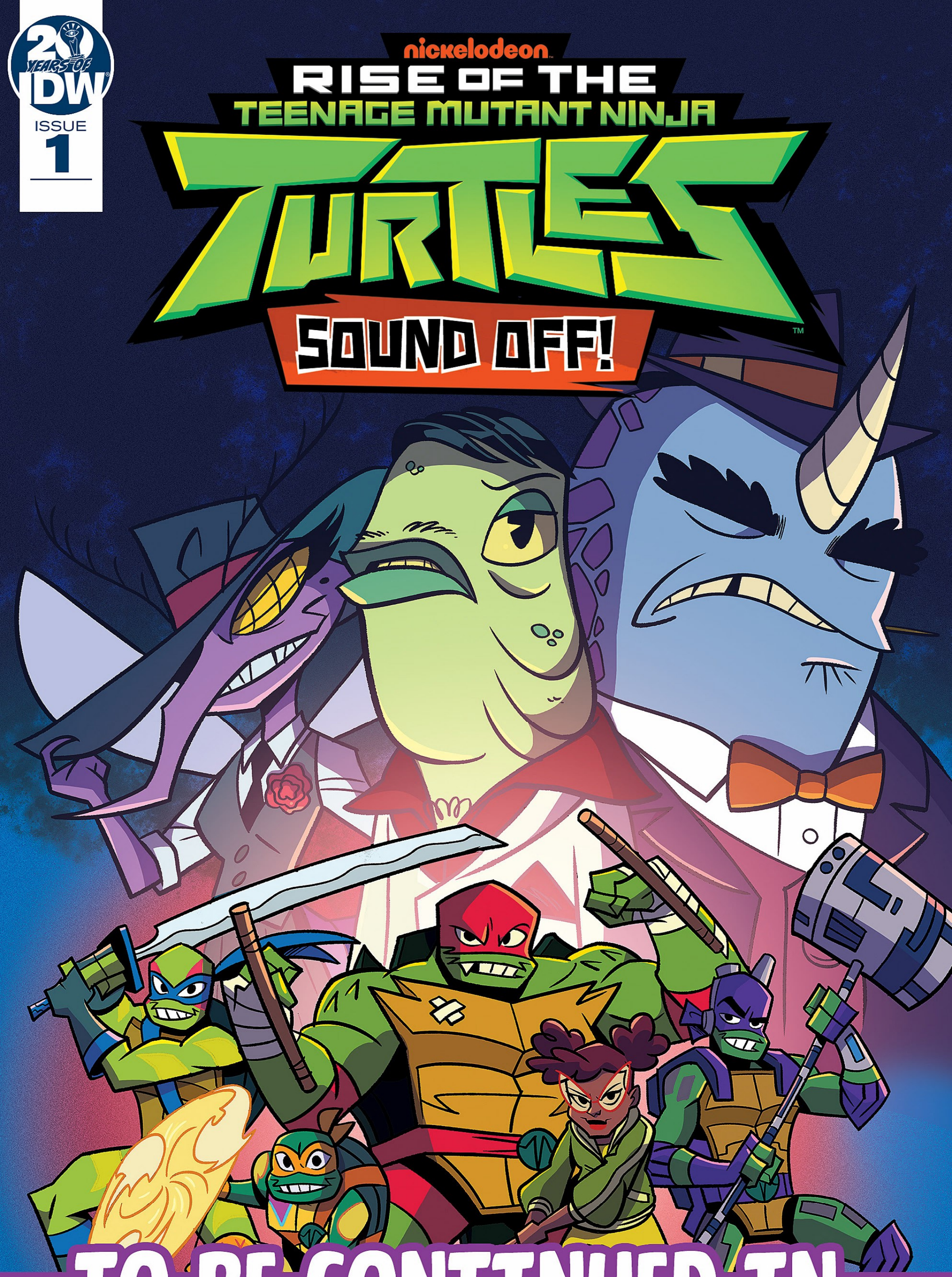

TO BE CONTINUED IN...

TMNT: RISE OF THE TMNT: SOUND OFF! #1

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